

In the claims, please make the following amendments:

What is claimed is:

1. (currently amended) A composition for controlling the growth of microorganisms comprising:
 - (a) one or more metasilicate in an amount of about 10%-70% [[1-75%]] by dry weight;
 - (b) one or more carbonate in an amount of about 10%-70% [[30-90%]] by dry weight;
 - (c) one or more glyconate in an amount of about 4%-50% [[10-98%]] by dry weight; and
 - (d) one or more sulfate in an amount of about 4%-50% [[0.5-20%]] by dry weight wherein at least one sulfate is potassium aluminum sulfate, based on the total amount of the composition.
2. (original) The composition of claim 1, wherein the composition further comprises (e) one or more salts.
3. (previously presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein the composition comprises: (a) about 31%-50% metasilicate; (b) about 29%-45% carbonate; (c) about 8%-18% glyconate; and (d) about 8%-18% potassium aluminum sulfate, based on the total amount of the composition.
4. (original) The composition of claim 1, wherein the one or more metasilicate is an alkali metal silicate selected from the group consisting of sodium or potassium metasilicate, sodium or potassium orthosilicate and mixtures thereof.
5. (previously presented) The composition of claim 4, wherein the one or more carbonate is selected from the group consisting of sodium carbonate, sodium sesquicarbonate, sodium bicarbonate and mixtures and hydrated carbonates thereof.
6. (previously presented) The composition of claim 5, wherein the glyconate is selected from the group consisting of ammonium glyconate, lithium glyconate, sodium glyconate, sodium starch glyconate, potassium glyconate, ammonium D-glyconate, lithium D-glyconate, sodium D-glyconate, potassium D-glyconate, glyconic acid, glyconic D acid, glyconic L acid, ammonium L-glyconate, lithium L-glyconate, sodium L-glyconate, potassium L-glyconate, magnesium glyconate, magnesium acid glyconate, magnesium D-glyconate, magnesium L-glyconate, calcium glyconate, calcium acid glyconate, calcium D-glyconate, calcium L-glyconate and mixtures thereof.
7. (currently amended) The composition of claim 6, wherein the pH of an aqueous 0.01% solution of the composition at 40°C falls between 7 and 9.

8. (previously presented) The composition of claim 7, wherein the composition does not produce or comprise a peroxide, a terpene or sodium hypochlorite.
9. (cancelled)
10. (previously presented) The composition as defined in claim 2, wherein the composition comprises: (a) about 8%-66% metasilicate; (b) about 8%-66% carbonate; (c) about 4%-45% glyconate; (d) about 4%-45% potassium aluminum sulfate; and (e) about 4%-45% inorganic salt, based on the total amount of the composition.
11. (cancelled)
12. (previously presented) The composition as defined in claim 1, wherein the composition comprises: (a) about 27%-45% metasilicate; (b) about 25%-40% carbonate; (c) about 7%-18% glyconate; (d) about 7%-18% potassium aluminum sulfate; and (e) about 7%-18% inorganic salt, based on the total amount of the composition.
13. (previously presented) The composition as defined in claim 1, which further comprises a biofilm dislodging enhancer agent selected from the group consisting of a chaotropic agent or a calcium chelator.
14. (cancelled)
15. (currently amended) The composition as defined in claim 6, wherein the composition is prepared as an aqueous solution comprising ~~further comprises~~ from about 2 mM to about 50 mM of one or more buffering agents.
16. (currently amended) A method for removing biofilm from, and/or for preventing biofilm from forming on a surface on a water system, comprising adding an effective amount of a composition of any one of claims 1-8, 10, and 12-15 ~~claim 8 or 15~~ to the water system.
17. (original) The method of claim 16, further comprising passing an ozone-containing gas through the water.
18. (currently amended) The method of claim 16, further comprising irradiating water that is used to supply the water system ~~the supply of water~~ with ultraviolet radiation.
19. (original) The method of claim 18, wherein the ultraviolet radiation includes a wavelength in the range of about 100 nanometers to about 300 nanometers.
20. (previously presented) The method of claim 18, wherein the pH of the water system after addition of the composition falls between 7 and 9.
21. (previously presented) The method of claim 29, wherein the composition further comprises about 0.1% to about 15% anti-corrosive agent.

22. (original) The method of claim 17, further comprising generating the ozone-containing gas from an oxygen-containing gas, wherein the oxygen-containing gas is at least one selected from the group consisting of: air, oxygen and oxygen-enriched air.
23. (original) The composition of claim 4, wherein the carbonate is sodium carbonate, wherein the glyconate is sodium glyconate, and wherein the sulfate is potassium aluminum sulfate.
24. (previously presented) The composition as defined in claim 1, wherein the composition, prior to final use, is prepared as an aqueous solution, the composition comprising:
- | | | |
|-----|----------------------------|-------------------|
| (a) | Meta Silicate | about 2-10 kg; |
| (b) | Carbonate | about 2-10 kg; |
| (c) | Glyconate | about 1-5 kg; and |
| (d) | Potassium Aluminum Sulfate | about 1-5 kg; |
- per 300 liters of the aqueous solution.
25. (previously presented) The composition as defined in claim 1, wherein the composition, prior to final use, is prepared as an aqueous solution, the composition comprising:
- | | | |
|-----|----------------------------|-------------------|
| (a) | Meta Silicate | about 4-6 kg; |
| (b) | Carbonate | about 4-5 kg; |
| (c) | Glyconate | about 1-2 kg; and |
| (d) | Potassium Aluminum Sulfate | about 1-2 kg; |
- per 300 liters of the aqueous solution.
26. (cancelled)
27. (previously presented)) The composition as defined in claim 1, wherein the composition, prior to final use, is prepared as an aqueous solution, the composition comprising:
- | | | |
|-----|----------------------|-------------------|
| (a) | Meta Silicate | about 4-6 kg; |
| (b) | Carbonate | about 4-5 kg; |
| (c) | Glyconate | about 1-2 kg; |
| (d) | Potassium Al Sulfate | about 1-2 kg; and |
| (e) | Inorganic Salt | about 1-2 kg; |
- per 300 liters of the aqueous solution.

28. (previously presented) The composition as defined in claim 1, wherein the composition, prior to final use, is prepared as an aqueous solution, the composition comprising:
- | | | |
|-----|----------------------|-------------------|
| (a) | Meta Silicate | about 4.9 kg; |
| (b) | Sodium Carbonate | about 4.5 kg; |
| (c) | Sodium Glyconate | about 1.5 kg; and |
| (d) | Potassium Al Sulfate | about 1.5 kg; |
- per 300 liters of the aqueous solution.
29. (previously presented) The composition as defined in claim 15, wherein the composition, further comprises about 0.2 to about 10 wt.%, of an anti-redeposition agent.
30. (currently amended) The composition of claim 1, wherein the composition is in an aqueous solution and comprises:
- | | |
|-----|---|
| (a) | at least 1 mg/L of one or more meta silicates; |
| (b) | at least 1 mg/L of one or more carbonate; |
| (c) | at least 0.5 mg/L of one or more glyconate; and |
| (d) | at least 0.2 mg/L of one or more sulfate selected from the group consisting of potassium aluminum sulfate, sulfuric acid, sodium sulfate, potassium sulfate, lithium sulfate, ammonium sulfate, magnesium sulfate, strontium sulfate, and aluminum sulfate; |
- wherein the concentrations are the concentration in final solution in the water to be treated.
31. (original) The composition of claim 30, wherein the composition further comprises
- | | |
|-----|---|
| (e) | at least 0.6 mg/L of one or more salts. |
|-----|---|

32. (currently amended) The composition of claim 1, wherein the composition is in an aqueous solution and comprises:

- (a) at least 1 mg/L of one or more meta silicates;
- (b) at least 2 mg/L of one or more carbonate
- (c) at least 0.8 mg/L of one or more glyconate; and
- (d) at least 0.8 mg/L of one or more sulfate selected from the group consisting of potassium aluminum sulfate, sulfuric acid, sodium sulfate, potassium sulfate, lithium sulfate, ammonium sulfate, magnesium sulfate, strontium sulfate, and aluminum sulfate;

wherein the concentrations are the concentration in final solution in the water to be treated.

33. (original) The composition of claim 32, wherein the composition further comprises
(e) at least 1 mg/L of one or more salts.

34. (currently amended) The composition of claim 1, wherein the composition is in an aqueous solution and comprises::

- (a) at least 3 mg/L of one or more alkali metal silicate selected from the group consisting of sodium or potassium metasilicate, orthosilicate or other water-soluble silicate;
- (b) at least 3 mg/L of one or more carbonate selected from the group consisting of sodium carbonate, sodium sesquicarbonate, and sodium bicarbonate;
- (c) at least 0.9 mg/L of one or more glyconate; and
- (d) at least 0.8 mg/L of one or more sulfate selected from the group consisting of potassium aluminum sulfate, sulfuric acid, sodium sulfate, potassium sulfate, lithium sulfate, ammonium sulfate, magnesium sulfate, strontium sulfate, and aluminum sulfate;

wherein the concentrations are the concentration in final solution in the water to be treated.

35. (original) The composition of claim 34, wherein the composition further comprises
(e) at least 0.6 mg/L of one or more salts.

36. (currently amended) The composition of claim 1, wherein the composition is in an aqueous solution and comprises::

- (a) at least 1 mg/L of meta silicates;
- (b) at least 2 mg/L of sodium carbonate
- (c) at least 0.8 mg/L of sodium glyconate; and
- (d) at least 0.8 mg/L of potassium aluminum sulfate;

wherein the concentrations are the concentration in final solution in the water to be treated.

37. (original) The composition of claim 36, wherein the composition further comprises
(c) at least 1 mg/L of one or more salts.

38. (currently amended) The composition of claim 1, wherein the composition is in an aqueous solution and comprises::

- (a) from about 1 to about 100 mg/L of one or more alkali metal silicate selected from the group consisting of sodium or potassium metasilicate, orthosilicate or other water-soluble silicate;
- (b) from about 1 to about 100 mg/L of one or more carbonate selected from the group consisting of sodium carbonate, sodium sesquicarbonate and sodium bicarbonate
- (c) from about 0.1 to about 60 mg/L of sodium glyconate; and
- (d) from about 0.1 to about 100 mg/L of potassium aluminum sulfate,

wherein the concentrations are the concentration in final solution in the water to be treated.

39. (original) The composition of claim 38, wherein the composition further comprises
(c) from about 1 to about 100 mg/L of one or more salts.

40. (currently amended) The composition of claim 1, wherein the composition is in an aqueous solution and comprises::

- (a) from about 1 to about 10 mg/L of one or more meta silicates;
- (b) from about 1 to about 10 mg/L of one or more carbonate
- (c) from about 0.01 to about 6 mg/L of one or more glyconate; and
- (d) from about 1 to about 10 mg/L of potassium aluminum sulfate,

wherein the concentrations are the concentration in final concentration in the water to be treated.

41. (original) The composition of claim 40, wherein the composition further comprises (e) from about 1 to about 10 mg/L of one or more salts.
42. (cancelled)
43. (currently amended) A ~~[[The]] composition of claim 1~~, wherein the composition is an aqueous solution comprising:
- | | | | | |
|-----|----------------------|------|---|---------------|
| (a) | Meta Silicate | 1.10 | - | 500 mg/L; |
| (b) | Sodium Carbonate | 1.70 | - | 720 mg/L; |
| (c) | Sodium Glyconate | 0.50 | - | 420 mg/L; |
| (d) | Salt | 0.60 | - | 300 mg/L; and |
| (e) | Potassium Al Sulfate | 0.90 | - | 275 mg/L. |
44. (currently amended) The composition of claim ~~[[1]]~~ 43, wherein the composition is an aqueous solution comprising:
- | | | | | |
|-----|----------------------|------|---|----------------|
| (a) | Meta Silicate | 1.20 | - | 7.00 mg/L; |
| (b) | Sodium Carbonate | 2.90 | - | 4.80 mg/L; |
| (c) | Sodium Glyconate | 0.80 | - | 3.50 mg/L; |
| (d) | Salt | 0.60 | - | 2.80 mg/L; and |
| (e) | Potassium Al Sulfate | 0.20 | - | 1.90 mg/L. |
45. (currently amended) The composition of claim ~~[[1]]~~ 43, wherein the composition is an aqueous solution comprising:
- | | | | | |
|-----|----------------------|------|---|----------------|
| (a) | Meta Silicate | 3.50 | - | 6.50 mg/L; |
| (b) | Sodium Carbonate | 3.20 | - | 4.00 mg/L; |
| (c) | Sodium Glyconate | 0.90 | - | 1.40 mg/L; |
| (d) | Sea salt | 1.00 | - | 1.35 mg/L; |
| (e) | Potassium Al Sulfate | 0.80 | - | 1.35 mg/L; and |
| (f) | Fragrances | 1.00 | - | 1.10 mg/L. |

46. (withdrawn) A composition for removing a biofilm from a surface comprising:
- (a) one or more metasilicate;
 - (b) one or more carbonate;
 - (c) one or more glyconate; and
 - (d) one or more aluminum salt.
47. (withdrawn) The composition of claim 46, wherein the composition is in a dry formulation selected from the group consisting of powders, granules or tablets.
48. (withdrawn) The composition of claim 47, wherein the composition is combined with a suitable carrier.
49. (withdrawn) The composition of claim 47, wherein the metasilicate is present in an amount of 1-75% by dry weight, based on the total amount of the composition.
50. (withdrawn) The composition of claim 47, wherein the carbonate is present in an amount of 30-90% by dry weight, based on the total amount of the composition.
51. (withdrawn) The composition of claim 47, wherein the carbonate is present in an amount of 10-98% by dry weight, based on the total amount of the composition.
52. (withdrawn) The composition of claim 47, wherein the aluminum salt is incorporated into the composition in the range of 0.5-20%, based on the total amount of the composition.
53. (withdrawn) The composition of claim 47, wherein the aluminum salt is incorporated into the composition in the range of 1-10%, based on the total amount of the composition.
54. (withdrawn) The composition of claim 47, wherein the aluminum salt is incorporated into the composition in the range of 1-5%, based on the total amount of the composition.
55. (withdrawn) The composition of claim 53, wherein the aluminum salt is an inorganic aluminum salt.
56. (withdrawn) The composition of claim 55, wherein the inorganic aluminum salt is selected from the group consisting of potassium aluminum sulfate, ammonium aluminum sulfate and aluminum chloride.
57. (withdrawn) The composition of claim 55, wherein the aluminum salt is a soluble aluminum carboxylate.
58. (withdrawn) The composition of claim 55, wherein the soluble aluminum carboxylate is selected from the group consisting of aluminum lactate, aluminum citrate and aluminum malate.
59. (withdrawn) The composition of claim 56, wherein the composition further comprises (e) one or more salts.

60. (withdrawn) The composition of claim 47, wherein the composition comprises:

- (a) about 31%-50% metasilicate;
 - (b) about 29%-45% carbonate;
 - (c) about 8%-18% glyconate; and
 - (d) about 8%-18% potassium aluminum sulfate,
- based on the total amount of the composition.

61. (withdrawn) The composition of claim 47, wherein the composition comprises:

- (a) about 10%-70% metasilicate;
 - (b) about 10%-70% carbonate;
 - (c) about 4%-50% glyconate; and
 - (d) about 4%-50% potassium aluminum sulfate,
- based on the total amount of the composition.

62. (withdrawn) The composition of claim 47, wherein the composition comprises:

- (a) about 8%-66% metasilicate;
 - (b) about 8%-66% carbonate;
 - (c) about 4%-45% glyconate;
 - (d) about 4%-45% potassium aluminum sulfate; and
 - (e) about 4%-45% inorganic salt,
- based on the total amount of the composition.

63. (withdrawn) The composition of claim 47, wherein the composition comprises:

- (a) about 27%-45% metasilicate;
 - (b) about 25%-40% carbonate;
 - (c) about 7%-18% glyconate;
 - (d) about 7%-18% potassium aluminum sulfate; and
 - (e) about 7%-18% inorganic salt,
- based on the total amount of the composition.

64. (withdrawn) The composition of claim 47, wherein the composition comprises:

- (a) about 40% metasilicate;
- (b) about 36% carbonate;
- (c) about 12% glyconate; and
- (d) about 12% potassium aluminum sulfate;

based on the total amount of the composition.

65. (withdrawn) The composition of claim 47, wherein the composition comprises:

- (a) about 35% metasilicate;
- (b) about 32% carbonate;
- (c) about 11% glyconate;
- (d) about 11% potassium aluminum sulfate; and
- (e) about 11% inorganic salt,

based on the total amount of the composition.

66. (withdrawn) The composition of claim 60, wherein the metasilicate is an alkali metal silicate selected from the group consisting of sodium or potassium metasilicate, sodium or potassium orthosilicate and mixtures thereof.

67. (withdrawn) The composition of claim 60, wherein the carbonate is selected from the group consisting of sodium carbonate, potassium carbonate, sodium sulfate, sodium bicarbonate, potassium bicarbonate, and sodium sesquicarbonate.

68. (withdrawn) The composition of claim 60, wherein the carbonate is selected from the group consisting of sodium carbonate, potassium carbonate, and mixtures thereof.

69. (withdrawn) The composition of claim 60, wherein the glyconate is selected from the group consisting of ammonium glyconate, lithium glyconate, sodium glyconate, sodium starch glyconate, potassium glyconate, ammonium acid glyconate, sodium acid glyconate, lithium acid glyconate, potassium acid glyconate, ammonium D-glyconate, lithium D-glyconate, sodium D-glyconate, potassium D-glyconate, glyconic acid, glyconic D acid, glyconic L acid, ammonium L-glyconate, lithium L-glyconate, sodium L-glyconate, potassium L-glyconate, magnesium glyconate, magnesium acid glyconate, magnesium D-glyconate, magnesium L-glyconate, calcium glyconate, calcium acid glyconate, calcium D-glyconate, calcium L-glyconate and mixtures thereof.

70. (withdrawn) The composition of claim 60, wherein the carbonate is sodium carbonate and wherein the glyconate is sodium glyconate.

71. (withdrawn) The composition of claim 47, wherein the composition does not produce or comprise a peroxide, a terpene or sodium hypochlorite.
72. (withdrawn) The composition as defined in claim 47, further comprising an effective amount of a bactericide.
73. (withdrawn) The composition as defined in claim 59, wherein the salt is sea salt.
74. (withdrawn) The composition as defined in claim 72, wherein the bactericide is any bactericide having a bactericidal potency and host spectrum substantially equivalent to hydrogen peroxide.
75. (withdrawn) The composition as defined in claim 47, which further comprises a biofilm dislodging enhancer agent.
76. (withdrawn) The composition as defined in claim 75, wherein the enhancer agent is a calcium chelator.
77. (withdrawn) The composition as defined in claim 75 wherein the enhancer agent is a chaotropic agent.
78. (currently amended) A method for treating medical waste or equipment, comprising adding an effective amount of a composition of any one of claims 1-8, 10, and 12-15 ~~claim 8 or 15~~ to ~~[[the]]~~ a water system.
79. (previously presented) A method for regulating a population of deleterious microorganisms comprising treating the microorganisms with the composition of claim 15.
80. (withdrawn) A method for regulating a population of deleterious microorganisms comprising the step of treating the microorganisms with the composition of claim 46.